

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1-44 (canceled)

Claim 45 (currently amended):                      A method comprising:

supporting a human on a support surface, wherein the support surface has a seat portion and a back portion; and

cleaning an anal region of the human by accessing the anal region, from behind the human and behind the back portion of the support surface, through an aperture in the support surface, wherein the aperture provides posterior access to the human and the aperture eliminates pressure on a portion of the human's buttocks between a left cheek and a right cheek.

Claim 46 (currently amended):                      A method comprising:

supporting a human on a support surface, wherein the support surface has a seat portion and a back portion; and

inspecting ~~an area of the human selected from the group consisting of a~~  
~~lower spine~~ spinal region of the human's anatomy ~~and an anal region~~ by  
accessing, from behind the human and behind the back portion of the support  
surface, a posterior region of the human through an aperture in the support  
surface.

Claim 47 (original): The method of claim 46, further comprising:

administering medical services to the human through the aperture in the  
support surface.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein during the  
administering medical services someone other than the human treats a decubitus  
ulcer on the human.

Claim 49 (previously presented): The method of claim 45, further comprising:

administering medical services to the human through the aperture in the  
support surface.

Claim 50 (previously presented): The method of claim 49, wherein during the  
administering medical services someone other than the human treats a decubitus  
ulcer on the human.

Claim 51 (previously presented): The method of claim 46, further comprising:

capturing a view of the human through the aperture, wherein the view is captured in the form of an electronic image and the view is capable of being used during the inspecting.

Claim 52 (previously presented): The method of claim 51, wherein the electronic image is transmitted wirelessly to a display device.

Claim 53 (previously presented): The method of claim 51, wherein someone other than the human performs the inspecting.

Claims 54-59 (canceled)

Claim 60 (currently amended): A method comprising:

providing posterior access to a sacral region of a human's anatomy,  
through an aperture in the support surface, when the human's legs and back are supported on the support surface and the aperture relieves pressure on a portion of the human's anatomy between a left cheek and right cheek of the buttocks.

Claim 61 (previously presented): The method of claim 60, further comprising:

eliminating pressure on the sacral region of the human's anatomy.

Claim 62 (previously presented): The method of claim 60, further comprising:  
providing posterior access to a lower spinal region of the human's  
anatomy.

Claim 63 (previously presented): The method of claim 62, further comprising:  
eliminating pressure on the lower spinal region of the human's anatomy.

Claim 64 (previously presented): The method of claim 60, further comprising:  
utilizing a privacy panel to obstruct a view of the human supported on the  
support surface, wherein the privacy panel is releasably coupled with the support  
surface.

Claim 65 (previously presented): The method of claim 60, wherein a sloped  
portion of the support surface is used to support the human's legs.

Claim 66 (previously presented): The method of claim 60, wherein the support  
surface includes arm rests that are sloped, such that the human's hand on an  
arm can be at a different elevation than the human's elbow on the arm.

Claim 67 (previously presented): The method of claim 60, wherein a portion of the support surface that supports the human's legs is flexibly coupled to a portion of the support surface that supports the human's back.

Claims 68-74 (canceled)

Claim 75 (new): An apparatus comprising:

a support surface having a seat portion and a back portion, wherein the seat portion and the back portion form a non-planar surface, the seat portion having an aperture opening toward the back portion so that when a human is supported on the support surface the human's anus is positioned over the aperture, and the aperture provides access, from behind the human and behind the back portion of the support surface, to a lower spinal region of the human's anatomy.

Claim 76 (new): The apparatus of claim 75, wherein the back portion having an aperture that merges with the aperture in the seat portion.

Claim 77 (new): The apparatus of claim 75, further comprising:

means for viewing to view a portion of the human visible through the aperture.

Claim 78 (new): The apparatus of claim 75, further comprising:

means for privacy to limit a view of the human.

Claim 79 (new): The apparatus of claim 75, further comprising:

means for providing mobility to the support surface.

Claim 80 (new): The apparatus of claim 75, wherein the seat portion is sloped to position the human's buttocks lower than the human's knees when the human is supported on the support surface.

Claim 81 (new): The apparatus of claim 75, further comprising:

means for supporting the human's arms.

Claim 82 (new): The apparatus of claim 75, further comprising:

an armrest coupled with the support surface.

Claim 83 (new): The apparatus of claim 83, wherein the armrest is sloped.

Claim 84 (new): An apparatus comprising:

a seat portion having a first aperture; and

a back portion having a second aperture, wherein the seat portion and the back portion form a non-planar support surface to support a human, and the first aperture and the second aperture form a composite aperture in the support

surface, so that the human's anus is proximate to the composite aperture, and  
the composite aperture provides access, from behind the human and behind the  
back portion of the support surface, to a lower spinal region of the human's  
anatomy.

Claim 85 (new):     The apparatus of claim 84, further comprising:  
                          means for viewing to view a portion of the human visible through the  
aperture.

Claim 86 (new):     The apparatus of claim 84, further comprising:  
                          means for privacy to limit a view of the human.

Claim 87 (new):     The apparatus of claim 84, further comprising:  
                          means for providing mobility to the support surface.

Claim 88 (new):     The apparatus of claim 84, wherein the seat portion is  
sloped to position the human's buttocks lower than the human's knees when the  
human is supported on the support surface.

Claim 89 (new):     The apparatus of claim 84, further comprising:  
                          means for supporting the human's arms.

Claim 90 (new): The apparatus of claim 84, further comprising:  
  
an armrest coupled with the support surface.

Claim 91 (new): The apparatus of claim 90, wherein the armrest is sloped.

Claim 92 (new): A support surface for a human comprising:  
  
a back portion;  
  
a seat portion having an aperture opening toward the back portion; and  
  
a frame coupling the seat portion with the back portion, so that when the human is supported on the support surface, the human's anus is proximate to the aperture, and the aperture provides access, from behind the human and behind the back portion of the support surface, to a lower spinal region of the human's anatomy.

Claim 93 (new): The apparatus of claim 92, wherein the back portion having an aperture that merges with the aperture in the seat portion.

Claim 94 (new): The apparatus of claim 92, further comprising:  
  
means for viewing to view a portion of the human visible through the aperture.

Claim 95 (new): The apparatus of claim 92, further comprising:



means for privacy to limit a view of the human.

Claim 96 (new): The apparatus of claim 92, further comprising:

means for providing mobility to the support surface.

Claim 97 (new): The apparatus of claim 92, wherein the seat portion is sloped to position the human's buttocks lower than the human's knees when the human is supported on the support surface.

Claim 98 (new): The apparatus of claim 92, further comprising:

means for supporting the human's arms.

Claim 99 (new): The apparatus of claim 92, further comprising:

an armrest coupled with the support surface.

Claim 100 (new): The apparatus of claim 99, wherein the armrest is sloped.

Claim 101 (new): A support surface for a human comprising:

a first portion having an aperture; and

a second portion flexibly coupled with the first portion, wherein the aperture extends toward the second portion and an angle between the first portion and the second portion is adjustable so that when the human is

supported on the support surface the human's anus is proximate to the aperture,  
and the aperture provides access, from behind the human and behind the back  
portion of the support surface, to a lower spinal region of the human's anatomy.

Claim 102 (new): The apparatus of claim 101, the second portion having an aperture that merges with the aperture in the first portion.

Claim 103 (new): The apparatus of claim 101, further comprising:  
means for viewing to view a portion of the human visible through the aperture.

Claim 104 (new): The apparatus of claim 101, further comprising:  
means for privacy to limit a view of the human.

Claim 105 (new): The apparatus of claim 101, further comprising:  
means for providing mobility to the support surface.

Claim 106 (new): The apparatus of claim 101, wherein the first portion is sloped to position the human's buttocks lower than the human's knees when the human is supported on the support surface.

Claim 107 (new): The apparatus of claim 101, further comprising:

means for supporting the human's arms.

Claim 108 (new): The apparatus of claim 101, further comprising:

an armrest coupled with the support surface.

Claim 109 (new): The apparatus of claim 108, wherein the armrest is sloped:

Claim 110 (new): A support surface for a human comprising:

a back portion having an aperture;

a seat portion having an aperture opening toward and merging with the aperture in the back portion to form a composite aperture wherein the human's anus is to be positioned proximate to the composite aperture;

a frame coupling the seat portion with the back portion;

means for viewing to facilitate viewing a portion of the human; and

means for privacy to limit a view of the human.

Claim 111 (new): The apparatus of claim 110, further comprising:

means for providing mobility to the support surface.

Claim 112 (new): The apparatus of claim 110, wherein the seat portion is sloped to position the human's buttocks lower than the human's knees when the human is supported on the support surface.

Claim 113 (new): The apparatus of claim 110, further comprising:  
an arm rest having a front end and a back end, the front end configured higher than the back end.